



THOMAS G. NEWMAN,  
EDITOR.

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## EDITORIAL BUZZINGS.

Ring, happy bells, for friend and foe.  
Ring in the Merry Christmas day!  
Its holly-wreaths, its mistletoe,  
Its happy hearts, both bright and gay!

We Wish all our readers, friends and correspondents

### A Merry Christmas!

The Holiday Season has again arrived, and brings its Christmas cheer! With its parties and pleasures—its kind words and tokens of love—its presents and remembrances—its family reunions and holiday attire—it comes with its glad, joyous merriment and annual blessedness.

Let every heart to-day rebound with delight, and every lip respond with thankfulness for that grand proclamation which now we commemorate—

"PEACE ON EARTH—  
GOOD WILL TO MEN."

**One Number More** will end the present Volume of the BEE JOURNAL. Next year we shall change the form somewhat—giving two columns to the page, but it will have **double** the number of pages that it now contains—making **1664** pages for the year. It will also be printed with new type, and an entire new dress. This will add considerable expense and labor, but it will be "a daisy." Although the Volume for the year 1891 will be as thick as Webster's Unabridged Dictionary—it will be supplied for a **single dollar**! This will be the most wonderful journalistic accomplishment in the apicultural world, eclipsing all others! The AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is the only weekly bee-periodical in America, and is even now the largest in the World!

**Are Bees a Nuisance?**—This is the record of another suit to compel the removal of bees from the city limits, and the farcical outcome of it. Mr. Tatman says:

A neighbor became offended at me for naught, and tried to compel the removal of my bees from town. It was tried before the Mayor, but they failed to sustain the case. I still have my bees in town, and several others keep bees here also, even since the prosecution. My neighbor is now on good terms, and I do not expect any further trouble. My bees have done but little good during the last few years, but I enjoy working with them, and I cannot refrain from working with them.

J. H. TATMAN.

Connersville, Ind., Dec. 6, 1890.

Mr. Tatman being a member of the National Bee-Keepers' Union, the General Manager has paid a portion of the attorney's fee, and the legal defense prevented the prosecution from being able to sustain the plea.

**Lectures on bees at Farmers' Institutes** are advocated by Mrs. L. Harrison, in the *Prairie Farmer*. She says:

If you have an influence with "the powers that be," have a lecture on bees, illustrated with charts, showing how bees act as marriage priests between flowers. It would be well to have a lecture of this kind, during the Winter, whenever an opportunity offers, whether it be at an Institute, Grange, or horticultural meeting.

This advice is good and timely. Such lectures will help to dispel the ignorance so prevalent about the important part played by bees in the production of fruit. "Let there be light" to enlighten the darkness, and drive away ignorance and superstition from the minds of the people.

**Don't Fail** to attend the Michigan State Convention at Detroit on January 1 and 2, 1891. You can enjoy the New Year's day there, and have a delightful time. We would go, but the great rush of business consequent upon the New Year, will make it quite impossible for us to leave the office; but Prof. Cook, Dr. Mason, Hon. R. L. Taylor, H. D. Cutting, W. Z. Hutchinson, Geo. H. Hilton, and many other enthusiasts are expected to be there, and a general "good time" will certainly be the result. "Go up to the Feast," and you will certainly come home refreshed!

**Migratory Bee-Keeping.**—An apiary on wheels is one of the latest innovations in California. After the foot-hills have been pastured the bee-herder moves his bees to a higher elevation, where they gather the nectar stored in the blossoms of wild clover, chaparral and other plants; and when these have been relieved of their saccharine matter, the bees are again moved to a higher elevation, where flowers peculiar to that region yield up their sweets to them.—*Exchange*.

**The Bee-Hive** published at Andover, Conn., has now ceased to exist. The subscription list has been bought by the W. T. Falconer Manufacturing Company, and on the 1st of January they will begin their new monthly called the *Bee-Keeper*. The December issue of the *Bee-Hive* contained this item and comment:

We understand that 11 colonies of bees were recently sold in this State for \$100. It is safe to say that the party buying them at that price will know the value of bees by the time he gets back the price paid.

**Next Year** we shall have a Department entitled "Current Bee-Notes," in which we shall briefly give the contents of the apicultural publications of the World. This will be a valuable addition to "the only Weekly Bee-Paper in America." By reading it you will obtain the news, experiments, inventions, and important bee-literature of the World, in brief form.

**Life-Membership in the N. A. B. K. A.**—In order to become life-members in this Association, spoken of elsewhere in these columns, all you have to do is to pay \$10 to the Secretary; and when your name is voted upon and accepted, you will be a life-member, and no more ANNUAL dues to pay. Any one thoroughly interested in the success of the Society (and that success means a great deal to our industry in general) cannot do better than to become a life-member. If he be a straightforward man there will be no doubt that he will be accepted.—*Gleanings*.

**Supply Dealers**, before issuing their Catalogues for next season, should write to us for terms on the Globe Bee-Veil. We have sold over 1,200 within the past year. They give universal satisfaction.

**20,000.**—That is the number of square feet of floor surface in the new factory of the W. T. Falconer Manufacturing Company. The omission of the last cipher in their advertisement on the cover of the Report of the Keokuk Convention, made it nonsensical. That part of it appears as it should read on page 845.

**Several** new Catalogues for 1891 of bee-keepers' supplies have come to hand. We will notice all of them in the first number for next year. In justice to our patrons we shall hereafter only notice those that come from our advertisers.

**For \$2.15** we will send you the BEE JOURNAL, *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*, and the ILLUSTRATED HOME JOURNAL—all for the year 1891. The price quoted on page 820 was erroneous to the amount of 20 cents. This is a rare opportunity to secure 3 good periodicals for about the price of two.

**Christmas Bells.**

O bells! sweet bells! across the years  
Half gay, half sad, your chiming;  
Old joys ye tell; old sorrows swell  
Throughout your tender rhyming.

O merry bells! this Christmas day  
How loud and clear your ringing!  
Such love and mirth o'er all the earth  
Your lusty voices flinging!

—C. A. D.

**GLEAMS OF NEWS.**

**Alfalfa for Honey.**—A correspondent sends us the following letter containing many questions which he wishes to have answered in the BEE JOURNAL for the information of not only himself, but many others. He says:

A gentleman here wishes to sow 50 acres of land to grass within two miles of my bees, and I have been talking of alfalfa to him. Who can furnish the seed? At what price? Please give some directions as when and how to sow it, and what quantity per acre. Also state its relative merits for pasture, or to the common red clover. What can white-clover seed be bought for per bushel? How many acres will one bushel sow? Myself and one of my neighbors wish to join the Bee-Keepers' Union; how will we proceed? W. G. SECOR.  
Greenfield, Ills.

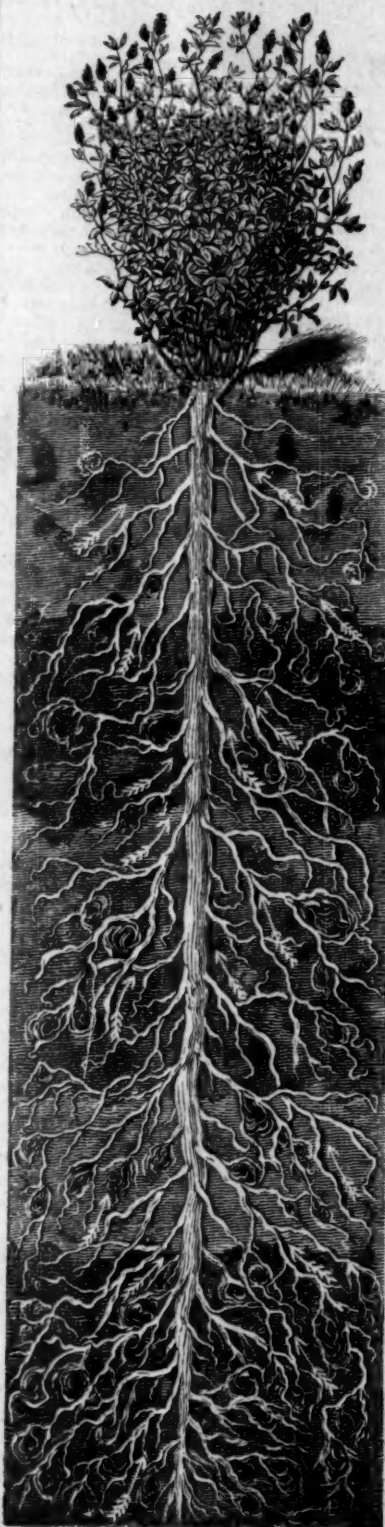
Some seed stores keep it. If not convenient to get it near home, we can supply you, but its market quotations vary like white clover. It will very likely be advertised for sale in the BEE JOURNAL next Spring. The following from a correspondent in Utah will answer the questions propounded:

Lucerne will grow on any land that will produce wheat, corn or potatoes, and will thrive on many lands that none of these will grow on, especially very light sand or gravel, though it does well on clay. But it does not grow on any land that the water stands within one foot of the surface, and there is no use in sowing it in an alkali strong enough to keep wheat from growing. Though particular about wet land, it will stand any amount of wet in the summer, as long as there is plenty of drainage. It will also stand all of the water in the Winter that may fall in the shape of rain, or snow that may melt.

It is a very quick grower, and will mature the first crop in about two months from the time that growth commences. The second crop will mature in about six weeks from cutting, and the third in about five weeks from cutting of the second. The second crop is the heaviest, but the first is a little the best feed, as it grows a little longer than the others. It will yield about on an average of six tons per acre, and I have known it to produce double that quantity.

**SOWING.**—The best method is to sow broadcast about 15 pounds per acre, where the land is in good condition, but on very weedy land, or clear gravel or sand that is very poor, put about 3 pounds more. You cannot get any crop from it the first year, but do not get discouraged if the plants are on an average of 10 inches apart, little, slim single stems about 4 or 6 inches high. Your prospect is good that you will get 4 tons per acre next year, and the next it

will be as good as ever it will, and stand that way for ten years.



*Alfalfa, showing its long Roots.*

It is best to sow with grain. Oats are the best; thus you will lose no time, but can have a crop from your land every year. In

fact it does better to have it shaded when young. Sow at the same time that you do Spring grain.

**CULTIVATION.**—Where there is plenty of rain, there is no cultivation needed, for it would be unwise to manure it, as it thrives fully as well on washed sand as it will on the best garden-spot, but in a few years it will make clear sand a rich land, owing to the decay of the root. The roots will sink themselves for a distance of 10 to 20 feet straight down. They are about 1½ inches in diameter, and fully one-half of that root cut, it will not be worth more than one-half for feed, and will be entirely worthless for market. Heavy dews are not good either.

Rake into windrows, if cut with a mowing machine, and let it dry until it begins to let the leaves fall when handled roughly, then pick it up and lay it in piles, just one forkful in a pile, to cure. Do not roll it together, or it will not load easily, then you will have to pull it to pieces, thus losing one-half of the leaves.

In order to join the National Bee-Keepers' Union, send to the General Manager, in care of this office, the Entrance Fee (\$1.00), and that pays for the Dues of any portion of the unexpired current year, ending Dec. 31. Any sent after this date pays for the year 1891.

Then it costs only one dollar for Annual Dues, which are payable every New Year's day, and must be paid within six months, in order to retain membership in the Union.

If membership ceases, all claims against former members also cease; and all claims to the protection of the Union are dissolved.

**Northwestern Convention.**—A correspondent sends us the following question:

What has become of the Northwestern Bee-Keepers' Association? The Convention met in Chicago early in October, 1889. Please answer through the BEE JOURNAL.  
E. P. GIBBS.

By referring to page 659, it will be seen that the officers consulted upon the advisability of not holding a Convention this year, and concluded not to do so. The time for holding it came so near to that of the International, that it was doubtful, in a poor season for honey like the present, whether the two could be made a success in the same territory. The Northwestern, therefore, gave way to the International.

**Handling Bees.**—This is the title of a nice pamphlet, containing 28 pages and a cover, published by Chas. Dadant & Son. It is a chapter from their book, Langstroth Revised, and is an excellent thing for beginners. Price, 8 cts. For sale at this office.

**Convention Notices.**

☞ The Annual Meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association, will be held in the city of St. Catharines, on the 7th and 8th of January. All interested in bee-keeping are cordially invited to attend.  
W. COUSE, Sec., Streetsville, Ont.

☞ The Annual Meeting of the Indiana State Bee-Keepers' Association, will be held in the Agricultural Rooms, State House, Indianapolis, Jan. 16, 17, 1891.  
GEO. C. THOMPSON, Sec.

☞ The 8th semi-annual meeting of the Susquehanna County Bee-Keepers' Association will be held at Montrose, Pa., on Thursday, May 7, 1891.  
H. M. SWELEY, Sec.



## QUERIES REPLIES.

### Prevention of Increase.

Written for the American Bee Journal

QUERY 743.—1. Where increase of swarms is not desired, is it a good plan to hive the swarm with a colony that has cast a swarm only a few days previous? 2. If this plan is objectionable in the forepart of the season, how would it work later? 3. If advisable to hive in this way, is it necessary to remove all queen-cells before hiving the swarm?—New York.

1. It may be in some cases. 2. It will be better then. 3. Yes.—DADANT & SON.

1. I never tried the plan, but good authorities have recommended it.—C. C. MILLER.

It is not a good plan. All the queen-cells should be removed before hiving.—J. P. H. BROWN.

1. Yes; very good. 2. Works well at all times. 3. Yes; very necessary.—A. J. COOK.

Over 15 years ago this theory came up, and many of us carefully tested it, but none of us use it now.—JAMES HEDDON.

No. My new system of management of swarms, described in my new book, is infinitely preferable.—G. L. TINKER.

1. Yes; it is one of the many plans of work, and it will work all right. 3. It is best to remove all queen-cells.—H. D. CUTTING.

This plan has never worked well with me. I prefer to return the swarm to its hive, and take the frames of brood out, and give them to other colonies needing to be strengthened. In either case always remove the queen-cells.—P. L. VIALON.

1. This works very well. 2. Good. 3. Yes; and in doing this shake the bees from the combs 2 or 3 feet in front of the hive, and shake the swarm down with them, so as to avoid fighting.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

I have done so. Sometimes it will work satisfactorily, and at other times they swarmed, but I never removed the queen-cells before hiving. I think it will work best in the latter part of the swarming season.—EUGENE SECOR.

1. I think not. 2. It is not advisable later; they are apt to kill each other. 3. You can return a second swarm to its parent colony by removing all queen-cells, and prevent further increase.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

1. No rule can be given as to swarming. This plan will work as well as any, and will work as well at one time as another. 3. I do not remove the queen-cells, but let the bees fix up to suit themselves.—J. E. POND.

1. I should think so. I know some who practice it. Sometimes I have extracted the frames containing honey, and then run in a swarm. 2. Late in the season would do well. 3. The bees would take care of the queen-cells.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

I do not consider it a good plan at any time. The swarming fever would not always be allayed, and old queens would be retained when young ones might as well be had. Kill the old queen, return the swarm, and employ some easy way to prevent further swarming.—R. L. TAYLOR.

1. I tried this plan one year, and found it not a good one. The colony into which the

swarm is put will be almost sure to swarm in a few days. 2. I do not think it will work any better later. 3. Of course remove the queen-cells, otherwise they would certainly swarm.—C. H. DIBBERN.

1. The plan would not work. I should expect the swarm to re-issue in 24 hours. 2. It would not be a good plan at any time. 3. A better plan would be to remove the old queen, destroy all the queen-cells, but one, and return the bees to the hive whence they came. It would be necessary to look for and destroy any queen-cells that might be built after the swarm had been returned.—M. MAHIN.

The plan you suggest with, or without its variations, will not work to my satisfaction. To keep the bees together I let them swarm, remove the brood to an upper story above the queen-excluder, and hive the swarm in the newly prepared brood-chamber below the queen-excluder. This prevents increase with less disturbance and less fussing than the plan you propose. In practicing my plan, I pay no attention to queen-cells, as they are cut off from the queen's domain by the perforated excluder.—G. W. DEMAREE.

### Enameled Cloth for Winter Covering.

Written for the American Bee Journal

QUERY 744.—Is the use of enameled cloth desirable to cover the brood-frames in Winter?—Illinois.

No.—R. L. TAYLOR.

No.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

No.—G. L. TINKER.

I do not advise it.—J. P. H. BROWN.

No. We take them off for Winter.—DADANT & SON.

I have never used it, preferring heavy muslin; although some successful bee-keepers do use it.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

I have used it satisfactorily in the cellar, but prefer the regular board cover.—C. C. MILLER.

Not with me. I use a sheet of duck or best cotton cloth, and over this I place a sawdust cushion, 4 inches thick.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

I do not think it desirable in your climate, as you need some absorbing material, such as a quilt made of burlap, etc.—P. L. VIALON.

I do not like enameled cloth. I do not use it in Winter or in Summer. I think it very unsuitable for Winter, either in-doors or out. I prefer an inch pine board.—M. MAHIN.

I do not use it myself, as I prefer a cushion or quilt from 3 to 4 inches thick, made of some material that will not hold and retain moisture.—J. E. POND.

Not unless it is used during the Summer. I use the same covering both in Winter and Summer; but I winter my bees in the cellar.—EUGENE SECOR.

I have discarded it and all other cloth. I could find no benefit in its use, when comprehensive and careful experiments were made with it.—JAMES HEDDON.

No. I have experimented a great deal on this line during the last 25 years, and have come to the conclusion that a pine board with a bee-space under it is as good as anything.—C. H. DIBBERN.

Yes. I consider enameled cloth the best thing used by bee-keepers to cover frames in Winter. It is next to a cover glued on perfectly tight. It is best used with a 4-inch cushion on the top of it.—H. D. CUTTING.

I use a great many enameled covers. I like them for Summer use, but they condense moisture in the Winter. I prefer a porous cloth to go next to the bees in the Winter time. I am quite sure that enameled cloth is dangerous to the lives of the bees, if they occupy a small department for Winter quarters.—G. W. DEMAREE.

It is better to use burlap.—THE EDITOR.

### CLUBBING LIST.

We Club the American Bee Journal for a year, with any of the following papers or books, at the prices quoted in the **LAST** column. The regular price of both is given in the first column. One year's subscription for the American Bee Journal must be sent with each order for another paper or book:

	Price of both.	Club.
The American Bee Journal.....	\$1 00....	
and Gleanings in Bee-Culture.....	2 00....	1 75
Bee-Keepers' Guide.....	1 50....	1 40
Bee-Keepers' Review.....	1 50....	1 40
The Apiculturist.....	1 75....	1 65
Bee-Keepers' Advance.....	1 50....	1 40
Canadian Bee Journal.....	2 00....	1 80
American Bee-Keeper.....	1 50....	1 40
The 8 above-named papers.....	5 75....	5 00
and Langstroth Revised (Dadant).....	3 00....	2 75
Cook's Manual (1887 edition).....	2 25....	2 00
Quinby's New Bee-Keeping.....	2 50....	2 25
Doolittle on Queen-Rearing.....	2 00....	1 75
Bees and Honey (Newman).....	2 00....	1 75
Binder for Am. Bee Journal.....	1 60....	1 50
Dzierzon's Bee-Book (cloth).....	3 00....	2 00
Root's A B C of Bee-Culture.....	2 25....	2 10
Farmer's Account Book.....	4 00....	2 20
Western World Guide.....	1 50....	1 30
Heddon's book, "Success,".....	1 50....	1 40
A Year Among the Bees.....	1 50....	1 35
Convention Hand-Book.....	1 50....	1 30
Weekly Inter-Ocean.....	2 00....	1 75
Toronto Globe (weekly).....	2 00....	1 70
History of National Society.....	1 50....	1 25
American Poultry Journal.....	2 25....	1 50
The Lever (Temperance).....	2 00....	1 75
Orange Judd Farmer.....	2 00....	1 65
Farm, Field and Stockman.....	2 00....	1 65
Prairie Farmer.....	2 00....	1 65

Do not send to us for sample copies of any other papers. Send for such to the publishers of the papers you want.

The "Farm-Poultry" is a 20-page monthly, published in Boston, at 50 cents per year. It is issued with a colored cover and is finely illustrated throughout.

We have arranged to club the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL with the Farm-Poultry at \$1.35 per year for the two. Or with the ILLUSTRATED HOME JOURNAL at \$1.75 for the three.

Free Trial Trip subscriptions are coming in quite rapidly. We thank our friends for this new illustration of their personal interest in the BEE JOURNAL. We want thousands to read it for a few weeks who did not know of its existence. Do not be afraid of sending too many names. Let us have the name and address of every person who keeps bees in America.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### MISSOURI.

#### The Bee-Keepers in Counsel at Mexico, Mo.

Written for the American Bee Journal  
BY J. W. ROUSE.

The Missouri State bee-keepers' annual convention was called to order on Oct 22, at 2 p.m., at Mexico, Mo., by President R. B. Leahy.

After the reading and approving of the minutes of the Marshall Convention, 16 members responded to roll-call, and 14 new names were added to the list.

The report of the Secretary was then listened to, and on motion was approved. Then followed the

#### PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

*Fellow Bee-Keepers and Friends:*—It devolves upon me as your President to deliver to you what our by-laws call the annual address. I am somewhat at a loss just how to frame this address, but after I am through you will, perhaps, pardon me for my short-comings, and endeavor to bring out in the discussions to follow what I omitted.

This Association is now one year old, and we have fairly launched upon the sea of life, hoping that our voyage may be prosperous, and that this noble new industrial ship may frequently enter harbor with overflowing cargoes of nectar. This is not the first Association in this State of like character, though its predecessor was different in many respects. It was different in that it embraced a smaller territory than this; it was held at one place, and its members from a distance soon grew tired of making a long pilgrimage to its annual meeting point, and those near its established seat equally soon grew tired of playing its footstool. It did not increase in membership; was moved to Kansas City, and there it died, with some three or four members holding a wake over its remains. It has been buried three years.

One year ago we organized the present Association at Higginsville, and this body has started forth with every promise of success before it. At its first meeting some twenty members were enrolled, and at Marshall, last April, as many more were added. Benefiting by the experience of its predecessor, its conventions cannot be held twice in succession in the same town, thus enabling many bee-keepers to attend its sessions without having to travel a long distance to do so. Other advantages are derived under this rule, among which I might add the fact that it does not devolve upon one set of men to carry the Association on their shoulders. Its meetings are held semi-annually, giving us an opportunity twice a year to compare notes of the past, and indulge in interchanging ideas for the future.

Our last Convention was held in the city of Marshall. It was successful, instructive, and profitable. New and old ideas and methods were discussed and examined, and each left with the proud conviction that the intercourse with his fellows had been one of profit as well as pleasure.

The question of adulteration of extracted-honey has been most prominently before

this Association since its inception. It is a question that interests us all to a high degree, and it is but right and just that the question be agitated and held prominently to view. It is a question that concerns two classes of people, viz.: bee-keepers first, and the people at large, second. If we do not agitate the question no one will do it for us, and it behooves us to hammer away at it until every drop of glucose stuff is driven from the market.

At the Higginsville Convention one year ago a committee was appointed to examine the law on the matter, and it reported at Marshall by reading the law governing the adulteration of food and drinks. A committee was then appointed to draft resolutions on the subject, and it presented the following report:

"WHEREAS, It is known to this Association that extracted-honey is largely adulterated with glucose and grape sugar, and, as in our opinion, the practice is damaging to the producers of honey in this State, and a fraud on the general public, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That this Association does emphatically denounce the practice of adulterating extracted-honey with glucose or grape sugar:

*Resolved*, That we urgently request the Bee-Keeping Associations of the different States, and others, to co-operate with us in presenting this subject to the consideration of the International American Bee-Association, that they may memorialize Congress to pass laws regarding the matter;

*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to each State Bee-Keepers' Association, and others."

The Secretary was instructed to request a reply to these sentiments from the Associations to which he sent these resolutions. What these are the Convention knows from the Secretary's report. With this resume as to what this Association has done in this matter, I would again say, do not let it rest here.

The statistics gathered at the Marshall Convention showed satisfactory and encouraging prospects for the season. Reports were received from 1,980 colonies, Fall count, and these had reduced to 1,909 colonies, Spring count, or a decrease of about 3% per cent. This was a very good report, but the dry season greatly damaged the honey-crop, which, in many localities, was only 50, and in others 33% per cent. of what it should have been with a good season. But this partial failure has also many advantages. It resulted in securing a better price for honey, and placed or forced on the market much old honey, thus cleaning the store houses of the producers, and opening the market for fresh goods next season. The late rains we had, and the encouraging growth and hardihood of honey-producing plants, and especially white clover, during the past few months, have all inspired new hopes and confidence for a large crop next year. With these matters before us, and the recollections that it is not all sunshine and success in any other industry, bee-keepers have, in my opinion, little room for complaint.

Since I have but a few hours to serve as your President, I do not wish to enter into a number of recommendations for the future action of the Association, but will leave them for my successor. Yet there are a few things I wish to call to your attention.

I would recommend that every member of the Association invite and urge his neighbors to attend the sessions of the Convention, and especially those who adhere to the old box-hive. It is here where the methods of practical bee-keeping are discussed, and there is no better plan to break up the box-hive and side issue business than to introduce their advocates to

the methods and devices here presented and discussed.

The successful business man, no matter what line of industry may hold him, is continually alert for new devices, appliances and methods for pushing the trade or profession in which he is engaged. These devices and methods are carefully examined, and if they do not prove either labor saving or money saving, are given a wide berth. If the bee-keeper desires to make a success of his chosen pursuit, he must be equally alert, and not only carefully examine the new methods, devices, appliances, and ideas presented, but put all the push and energy he can command into the business; watch every opportunity, and take advantage of every point gained. Every box-hive and side issue man who can be converted into the cause is a point gained for the uplifting of the business, and better prices. I say converted into the cause, because you can bring nine men to adopt the improved methods and devices where you can drive one out of the business.

There are a few characteristics for the bee-keeper who wants to succeed to note and develop. These are necessary to his success, and should be cultivated with every opportunity. The first of these is morality. This is necessary in any pursuit, and if you will look about, you can readily perceive that fifty moral men succeed where one immoral one does. But in bee-keeping it has a peculiar influence not felt elsewhere, and coupled with patience, the two elements make a first essential, which, if lacking, will alone cause failure. Without patience, as we all know, the handling of bees is dangerous, and where morality does not exist, patience is apt to be lacking.

Add to these two characteristics, industry and perseverance, cast them in one mold, and you will produce a being who will make bee-keeping a success.

An organization made up of such men can accomplish a wonderful amount of good, not only to their cause, but the people at large. Of such men, I take it, this body is composed, and success is certain if we will grasp it. But to make it a success every member must bring into display the qualities I have named, enter into hearty co-operation with his fellows, cultivate a brotherly feeling toward one another, stand united, and work for the interest of each other. In this way we can develop an association which will not only accomplish great good, but in which the social and instructive features are worth many times more than the effort has cost us.

Moved by Morton and Robinson to suspend the rules and take up a proposed amendment to the Constitution. Carried.

G. P. Morton offered an amendment to the Constitution, viz.: To amend Article VI. so that the Convention can be held annually, instead of semi-annually, and three days, instead of two days. The amendment was lost.

The election of officers was next in order, and resulted as follows: President, R. B. Leahy; Vice-Presidents, G. P. Morton for Central Missouri, J. S. Atkins for Northwest, John Nebel for Northeast, E. R. Garrett for Southwest, and J. W. Clark for Southeast Missouri. Secretary, J. W. Rouse; Treasurer, R. Gaines Robertson.

It was moved that a question-box be established on the same basis as the Marshall Convention. Carried.



It was moved that the members be given the privilege to discuss the questions in the box. Carried.

The President appointed Messrs. Nebel, Baldwin and Atkins as committee on the question-box.

It was moved to use question in box as a programme. Carried.

The prepared programme was taken up as the regular order.

"Should bee-keepers encourage the patenting of bee-fixtures?" It was opened by J. W. Rouse as follows:

**Brother Bee-Keepers:**—I hope I am only expected to open this subject for discussion.

It is our opinion that bee-keepers should not encourage the patenting of bee-fixtures. While we will admit that there are many fixtures used that bee-keepers could not afford to do without, even should they cost double their present price (as a patented article always costs more, if not double, than it would if not patented), still we must enter a protest on patented fixtures, and will give reasons for our opinions.

In the first place, if all bee-fixtures were patented that are now used, there would be a great many less bee-keepers on account of the increased cost of fixtures.

It may be possible that some would not count this a great calamity, but if this idea should be carried out in all the productions of the land, we think it would be a very great calamity.

Again, there is scarcely any fixture of any kind now used that is the invention of any one person, but what is a combination of two and sometimes of many more persons' invention.

While there are now some patented fixtures, the royalty on them prevents their general use more than fixtures not patented.

Besides these reasons a great many more might be given against the patenting of fixtures; but we believe these are sufficient to open the subject for discussion, but will further add that in all our intercourse and experience with bee-keepers, we have always found them of a very liberal mind, and communicative of bee-knowledge.

We remember when we first started in the business of visiting a noted bee-keeper, now a member of this Association, and while he found us very inquisitive, he answered all of our questions, and gave us a great deal of valuable information besides, and in addition to all that lodged us while there free of cost to us, and treated us to the first honey we had had for quite a while.

We have ever endeavored to carry out this same liberal spirit since then, except on one occasion, and that was when a patent-right man lodged with us we charged him for it, but have since repented of our actions, as we learned he was a victim of another patent-right man, and if he should ever have occasion to visit us again, we hope to treat him more liberally.

We do not wish to be understood that patent-right men are not liberal minded, because we have some grand men in our ranks that have patents. But our intercourse with each other, and our conventions and bee-literature, all seem to us to be in a different rather than the patenting spirit.

J. Nebel—I never believe in patents, and especially on bee-fixtures. They are generally impractical. Some fixtures we could not do without even if patented. I have some patented hives, but do not want them for Italians. They may do for blacks. Most patents

are not practical, and I am opposed to patent fixtures.

G. P. Morton—While I feel more or less of an inventive turn, and favor patent rights, believing that patents have been a great incentive to improvement, I am opposed to patenting bee-fixtures in general. It would raise the price of fixtures, if loaded with a patent, necessitate the sale of a territory, and thus limit the inventor himself as to territory. A small article, such as a smoker, will do well enough when patented; but, as a general rule, a patented article in bee-fixtures nearly always goes into obscurity.

Heddon's hive is loaded with a patent, making it very expensive, and beyond the reach of most bee-keepers. A patent concern cannot be changed without renewing or vitiating the patent.

J. W. Rouse—I do not know that I entirely oppose the patenting of some articles. Patents would keep us from manufacturing many articles.

J. M. Haley—An inventor ought to have compensation for his invention, and bee-keepers ought to be willing to pay something for using them.

Mr. Pew—I never saw a patented hive of any account.

R. B. Leahy—It may look strange to look at these ideas from a business standpoint. When I first started I used the Simplicity hive. I make a hive of my own, and there may be something about it which I might patent, but when the idea occurs, it is accompanied with another thought, and there the idea stops.

H. O. Calhoun—We ought not to encourage patent bee-fixtures unless of marked merit, and sold cheap.

G. P. Morton was called upon to condense the discussion.

Mr. Morton—So far as the discussion extended, it was in opposition to the patenting of bee-fixtures in a general way. A few fixtures, when made cheap, might be patented.

#### EVENING SESSION.

"Which is the most profitable to produce under the present market prices, comb or extracted honey?"

Mr. Larch—It depends on location. In many localities we sell little extracted-honey, and comb-honey sells readily, and *vice versa*.

Mr. Nebel—Every year is not alike. When honey is scarce, extracted-honey sells readily. When we have a good year farmers sell too cheap—ten cents in trade. In that condition of the market practical bee-keepers lose. It depends also on locality. I run both ways, and can produce twice as much extracted as comb honey, consequently the extracted pays me best.

R. B. Leahy—I want to bring out a few points that should not be overlooked in this discussion. There is a good deal in what a man is adapted to. I never did like to handle comb-honey. We must have nice, white, clean sections for comb-honey. In a poor season many are only partially filled; no bee-bread must be in them; they are expensive to ship; the sections and starters add to the expense. With extracted honey it is different. Less care is required, less trouble, less expense in shipping, and the combs can be used again.

Mr. Morton—I arranged 6 colonies for the extractor; 5 of them produced 100 pounds of honey in 30 days. From 16 colonies I got 900 pounds of honey, of which 55 pounds was extracted. I can sell twice as much extracted as comb honey.

Mr. Pew—I think there is more money in producing extracted-honey in my locality. I can sell ten pounds of extracted to one of comb-honey, and the extracted is easier to produce.

Mr. Atkins—We turn all our attention to comb-honey, and where I sell one pound of extracted I dispose of 500 pounds of comb-honey.

Mr. Calhoun was called upon to condense the discussion.

Mr. Calhoun—As I understand it the sense of the Convention would be that the production of extracted-honey is the most profitable.

"What are the relative merits of the races of bees amongst us?"

With this question the following was also submitted: "Will the Italian bees be diminished in their good qualities by crossing with the German or any other race of bees?"

Mr. Baldwin—I know nothing of any bees but Italians. They suit me. It takes careful work to keep my Italians' blood up. A lower kind of the same species will degenerate a higher. A race above the Italians would lift them up.

Mr. Haley—Where the Italian bees degenerate, do not the lower races gain some?

Mr. Baldwin—The progeny from an Italian queen crossed with a black drone is better than that of a black queen crossed with an Italian drone.

The further discussion of the question was laid over to the second day.

Mr. Rosser—How long will a comb be good for brood-comb in a hive?

Mr. Nebel—I have some 18 years old.

Mr. Larch—I have combs used for 20 years.

Mr. Atkins—I have combs that have been used 15 years.

"What is the best method to stop robbing?"

Mr. Morton—I have had but one experience. I put the hive containing the robbing colony on the stand of the robbed, and *vice versa*.

Mr. Rosser—The best thing I have tried was to put a sheet over the hive being robbed.

Adjourned till 9 a.m. on Thursday.

#### THURSDAY MORNING.

The Convention was called to order at 9 o'clock.

It was moved that the Convention take up the questions in the box for discussion. Carried.

"Do flowers furnish the same amount of nectar every year?" The committee says "No."

"What is the future outlook for the bee-keepers of Missouri?" Committee says, "Not very flattering."

Mr. Rosser—I think the prospects are good from the start clover has now.

Mr. Atkins—In my county the clover prospect is fine.

Mr. Morton—I think the prospect for the future as good as the past.

Mr. Baldwin—It is well to look to the future with hope, but facts are stubborn things. The future prospects lie more in the bee-keepers' management than in anything else.

"Should we use queen-excluding honey-boards under all circumstances in the production of extracted-honey?"

Mr. Baldwin—Yes.

Mr. Nebel—It is not necessary under all circumstances.

Mr. Pew—I would not do without them.

Mr. Morton—I find them work to my satisfaction, and approve of them.

Mr. Collier—I would use wood if I could not get zinc; it pays.

"How shall we elevate the moral standard and social taste of our Italian queens above associating with black drones?"

"Is a sectional brood-chamber a beneficial adjunct to a hive?" No.

Mr. Morton—It is patented.

"What treatment for laying workers?" The committee says, "Introduce a fertile queen."

A Member—Will the laying worker kill the queen?

Committee—Not if the queen is introduced right.

The question of the location of the next meeting was taken up. Jefferson City, Boonville, St. Louis and Macon City were named. A ballot being cast resulted in the selection of Boonville, and the time for holding the Convention was, on motion, set between April 1 and 10.

Moved, that the President appoint a committee of three on resolutions to report at 5 o'clock. Carried. The President appointed Messrs. Nebel, Rouse and Morton.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was called to order at 1:30. The question as to the relative merits of races of bees was taken up for further discussion.

Mr. Collier—I have had 11 years' experience with Italians; have had bees considerably mixed up; have watched them and their proceeds. The Italians are the best defenders of their homes; they are gentler to handle. On close examination I cannot see that the blacks dress honey any nicer.

Mr. Pew—I have had experience with four races; the Holy Lands do not suit me, and I got all I want of the Carniolans in one season. I now try to keep my Italians as pure as possible.

Mr. Nebel—I have tried different races, and want only Italians now.

Mr. Baldwin condensed the discussion—As I understand the discussion, the Italians are preferable in Missouri; the blacks have some points above, but the weight of the argument is in favor of the Italians.

"What importance is there attached to the brace-comb annoyance in the manipulation of hives?" It depends on the amount of them.

"What does the bee coming from the field laden with honey do with it on entering the hive?" Store it in combs, of course.

Mr. Robinson—I think that Mr. Doolittle says they deliver it to the nurse-bees, and they store it in the combs.

"How to dispose of a surplus of pollen in extracting combs?"

Mr. Pew—If I should find any I would put it down in the brood-chamber.

"Is it practical to re-queen colonies after swarming?"

Mr. Robinson—Sometimes it is necessary. If you remove all the queen-cells but one, and it fails to hatch, it is necessary to re-queen.

"Have you had any trouble in getting queens fertilized in old colonies this year?" No.

"Do young queens always go out to be fertilized?" Yes.

The committee on resolutions reported as follows:

*Resolved*, That we extend the thanks of the Association to the people of Mexico for their interest in our Association, and for courtesies extended to us.

*Resolved*, That we extend thanks to the proprietors of the Ringo House for their offer of the free use of their parlors for the Convention.

*Resolved*, That we extend thanks to the officers of the county, and especially to the sheriff, for the use of his room in the Court House for the Association.

*Resolved*, That we extend thanks to the newspapers for printing notice of meeting, and also publishing proceedings from time to time.

The resolutions were adopted and ordered spread on the minutes.

The following statistics were handed to the secretary:

Members.	Colonies.		Comb.	Ex. Wax.
	Spring.	Fall.		
T. A. Pew.....	60	57	361	1,025.....
L. C. Cheatham.....	40	70	945	.....
John Nebel & Son..	258	265	100	1,000 100
R. B. Leahy.....	23	33	25	300 25
Byron Hams.....	62	70	.....	3,300 30
E. C. L. Larch.....	168	168	500	11,500.....
G. P. Morton.....	16	23	350	550 10
R. Gaines Robertson	21	37	425	315.....
William Davis.....	72	97	100	500 20
J. S. Atkins.....	76	108	2,000	500 20
J. W. Rouse.....	54	54	500	500 35
J. R. Rhodes.....	25	40	500	1,200 30
M. B. Robinson.....	62	92	400	4,000 75
P. P. Collier.....	65	85	300	800 47
W. E. Thompson.....	21	30	600	.....
A. M. Creel.....	60	75	1,500	.....
J. N. Rosser.....	18	28	500	..... 3
L. W. Baldwin & Sons	550	900	20,000	.....
P. Baldwin.....	111	165	6,500	.....
E. R. Garrett.....	45	80	500	500.....
H. Martin.....	53	53	400	3,000.....

Moved, that 200 copies of the minutes be printed. Carried.

Adjourned *sine die*.

J. W. ROUSE, Sec.

#### BROOD-CHAMBERS.

##### The Best Size for Comb-Honey.

Written for the American Bee Journal

BY DR. G. L. TINKER.

After many years of experiment and observation Fathers Langstroth and Quinby each arrived at the conclusion that the brood-chamber for a colony of bees should contain 2,000 cubic inches of space to give the best results, and as they produced mostly comb-honey in their time, it would seem, if they were correct in their conclusions, that the brood-chamber they used would still be the best size for comb-honey; and I believe that the nearly 40 years of experience by thousands of other bee-keepers has confirmed their conclusions in regard to the hive, and the system of management they had adopted.

The question now arises, Whether, during the past 40 years, there have been improvements made in hives or in the system of management pursued that might, in any considerable degree, modify the well-established conclusions of two of the ablest bee-keepers America has produced? The writer claims such improvements have been made, and believes that there are very few who think to the contrary; yet we find to-day the vast majority of bee-keepers in this country using essentially the old hive, and the old system of the Fathers in apiculture, which is a grand testimonial to their worth in this age of rapidly advancing ideas!

The first decided improvement in hives affecting those conclusions was



the invention of the double-walled or chaff-hive, which was designed to winter bees more safely. The original purpose in making double-walled hives was achieved, and along with it another result that does not seem to have been anticipated. This result was the fact that larger colonies could be developed earlier in the Spring in these double-walled hives, through the incidental protection given, than could be developed in the old-time single-walled hives. The fact was made clear that protection to the brood, by providing a warmer hive, resulted in more extensive brood-rearing, and at last it became apparent that the average queen, through the protection given, was able to fill more than 10 standard Langstroth frames, with brood occupying 2,000 cubic inches of space.

The inference followed that with favorable conditions the 10-frame Langstroth hive was too small for breeding up of a full colony in the Spring! Since, as a matter of fact, the average queen is capable of filling 13 standard Langstroth frames with brood in the protected hives, when *only 8 frames, not wholly full of brood* in the 10-frame, single-walled Langstroth hive, is possible before the first of June in all Northern localities. Now a difference of five frames of brood in every colony at the beginning of the white-clover bloom is quite an item in the way of getting a crop of honey. But such is the result of proper protection to a colony of bees well provided with stores in the Spring, and hence there is no mistaking the fact that 2,000 cubic inches of breeding room in a double-walled hive is insufficient for the best results.

Another improvement in hives requiring a modified brood-chamber is the invention of the queen-excluder. When used in working for comb-honey it affords advantages, and effects results superior to every other known system of management, with a brood-chamber of the proper size. In this fact we have abundant and ample evidence to warrant this assertion, so we have another reason for modifying the old style of brood-chambers.

In connection with the queen-excluder we have an improved management known as "the contraction system." It has the sanction of nearly all of our ablest bee-keepers, and in all white-clover districts you can hardly find an old and expert bee-keeper who will not say that he cannot succeed in producing comb-honey without contraction of the brood-nest. It may be and is carried out on nearly all kinds of frame-hives by means of division-boards, etc., that, though very troublesome and taking much time, is yet practicable. But with a brood-cham-

ber of the proper size, all the contraction that is advantageous or ever necessary is done by means of the queen-excluder. No division-boards or other troublesome clap-trap being necessary. So that here again we have an urgent need for a modified brood-chamber.

The position of several well-known writers on the question of large *vs.* small hives is well known to the readers of the BEE JOURNAL; but the circumstances affecting these differing conclusions of our modern apiarists have not been made as clear as they might be. In certain localities there is almost a continual flow of nectar, from the opening to the close of the season. All experience seems to prove that in such localities no contraction is necessary, and that a large brood-chamber is of the greatest utility. On the contrary, in most localities (say 99 out of 100) where the season for surplus closes with the white clover or basswood bloom, a large brood-chamber is only required to breed up a sufficient force of workers, after which, and during the balance of the season, a contracted brood-chamber gives the best results.

In these localities of limited honey-flow it has been the practice with most bee-keepers to have all swarms in large brood-chambers, like the 8 or 10 frame Langstroth and Simplicity hives. Thousands of such hives were sold the past season, and the larger number will be used to have swarms without contraction, and the result will be the same as it always has been in working for comb-honey—with these old style of hives—a great loss of surplus, and no surplus worth mentioning except on the very early swarms. The colony casting the swarm, and also the swarm making no surplus except the season is an unusually favorable one. There is simply the *increase* and the *demand*, year after year, for more hives of the same worthless pattern that has blasted the hopes of bee-keepers all over this country, until it is no wonder that the vast majority consider bee-keeping a small business with no money in it. It will be understood that these remarks apply only to the production of comb-honey. No one questions the value of the Langstroth and Simplicity hives in the production of extracted-honey.

Now, I should not care to write in this way without a remedy in sight, but all of these difficulties in the way of hives and hive management may be overcome by the use of the queen-excluder and a brood-chamber of the right capacity; and the right capacity for a brood-chamber is one made just one-half the size of that required for the most successful Spring breeding, which has a capacity of 1,660 square

inches of brood-comb instead of only 1,350 as in the 10-frame Langstroth, and about 1,050 in the common 8-frame hive.

Now it so happens that the above small brood-chamber is the best size in which to have all swarms in working for comb-honey; and again, a two-story hive of such brood-chambers is far safer for out-door wintering in double-walled hives than any of the old style of hives, and with the return of Spring it is in the best possible shape for Spring breeding, the matter of spreading brood-combs to facilitate breeding being entirely superfluous. The brood-chamber recommended is a shallow one, made  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep to carry a 7-inch brood-frame, and the capacity should be for 830 square inches of brood-comb. Two of these stories make a hive of almost the exact capacity of Dadant's large hive that is now so popular in all localities where a continuous honey-flow during the season is the rule. The management of storifying hives for extraordinary results in comb-honey production is given in many new books, and will be further considered in forthcoming articles.

New Philadelphia, O.

## AMUSING.

### Mrs. Bricktop's First Experience with Bees.

I had an improved back-yard. I went through a seed store, and bought a sample of everything that would grow in this climate. The result was a perfect tangle of flowers and things, from an overgrown sunflower to a forget-me-not. Mrs. Bricktop is very proud of our garden, and while gushing over it the other morning a happy thought worked its way under her black hair.

"What a very delightful thing it would be to have a hive of bees and raise our own honey, as well as everything else." I have always thought that woman inspired ever since she convinced me that I couldn't do better than to marry her. This was an original, bold idea—a happy thought. I promised her a hive of bees, and went to business with a lighter heart and firmer belief in the genuineness of home comforts and amusements. I bought a hive of honey-bees, and brought it home with me that very night. It was one of those patent hydrostatic, back-action hives, in which the bees have peculiar accommodations and all the modern improvements. It was a nice little hive—none of your old-fashioned barn-size affairs. It even had windows in it, so that the bees

could look out and see what was going on, and enjoy themselves.

Both myself and Mrs. B. were delighted, and before dark I arranged a stand for the hive in the garden, and opened the bay windows so that the bees could take an early start, and get to business by sunrise the next morning. Mrs. B. called me "honey" several times during the evening and such sweet dreams as we had.

We intended to be up early next morning to see how our little birds took to our flowers, but a good half hour before we probably should have done so, we were awakened by the unearthly yells of a cat. Mrs. B. leaped from her downy couch, exclaiming, "What can be the matter with our yellow 'Billy'?" The yells of anguish convinced us that something more than ordinary was the matter with him; and so we hurried into our toilets. We rushed out into our back-yard, and oh! what a sight met our astonished gaze! The sight consisted of a yellow cat that appeared to be doing its best to make a pin-wheel of itself. He was rolling over and over in the grass, bounding up and down, anon darting through the bushes and foliage, standing on his head and then trying to drive his tail into the ground, all the while keeping up the most confounded yowling that was ever heard. "The cat is mad!" said Mrs. B. affrighted. "Why shouldn't he be? the bees are stinging him," said I comprehending the trouble.

Mrs. B. flew to the rescue of her cat, and the cat flew at her. So did the bees. One of them drove his drill into her nose, another vaccinated her on the chin, while another began to lay out his work near her eye. Then she howled and began to act nearly as bad as the cat. It was quite an animated scene. She cried "Murder!" and the neighbors looked out from the back windows and cried for the police, and asked where the fire was. This being a trifle too much, I threw a towel over my head and rushed to her rescue. In doing so, I ran over and knocked her down, trod upon the cat, and made matters no better.

Mrs. B. is no child on a wrestle and she soon had me under her, and was tenderly stamping down the garden walk with my head, using my ears for handles. Then I yelled and some of the bees came to her assistance, and stung me all over the face. In the meantime the neighbors were shouting; and getting awfully excited over the show; while our servant, supposing us fighting, opened the basement door and admitted a policeman, who at once proceeded to go between man and wife. The bees hadn't got at Mrs. B.'s tongue yet and she proceeded to show

the policeman that I had abused her in the most shameful manner, and that I had bought a hive of bees on purpose to torment her into the grave.

I tried to explain, but just then a bee stung the officer on the nose, and he understood it all in less than a minute. He got mad, and actually lost his temper. He rubbed his nose, and did some official cursing. But as this did not help matters at all, he drew his club, and proceeded to demolish that patent bee-hive. The bees failed to recognize his badge of office, and just swarmed on him. They stung him wherever he had no clothing, and some places where he did have it. Then he howled, and commenced acting after the manner of the cat and its mistress. He rolled on the ground for a moment, and then got up and made for the street shouting, "Fire!"

Then the bees turned to the people who had climbed upon the fence to see the fun. Windows went down, and some of the neighbors acted as though they thought a 20-inch shell was about to explode. By this time a fire-engine had arrived, and a line of hose was taken through the house into the back-yard. One of the hosemen asked where the fire was, but just then one of the bees bit him behind the ear, and he knew. They turned a stream upon that half-wrecked bee-hive, and began to "play away" with one hand, and fight bees with the other. But the water had the desired effect, and those bees were soon among the things that were.

A terrible crowd had gathered in the meantime in front of the house, but a large portion of it followed the flying policeman, who was rubbing his affected parts, and making for the station-house and a surgeon.

This little adventure somehow dampened our enthusiasm on bee-culture. During the next week we wore milk-and-water poultices pretty ardently, but not a word was said about honey; and now Mrs. B. has gone to stay a week with her mother, leaving me and the convalescent Tom-cat, and the tickled neighbors, to enjoy our own felicity.—*San Francisco Paper.*

## CALIFORNIA.

### Alfalfa for Honey in the Sacramento Valley.

Written for the Pacific Rural Press  
BY S. L. WATKINS.

On a recent trip to Sacramento and Yolo county, I visited Mr Adam Warner of Clarksburg, Yolo county, an extensive apiarist who keeps bees in both counties. I found Mr. Warner at home. He had just finished taking off about a

ton of honey, mostly in one-pound sections. The honey was as fine, both in color and flavor, as any I have seen this season.

"What kind of a crop did you have this year, Mr. Warner?" I asked.

"Not very large," he answered; "a little over a ton. You see the high water kept things back so much last Spring, that the bees did not have a chance to do much."

"That is very fine honey," I remarked. "By the look of it I should think that it was gathered from alfalfa."

"No doubt part of it was; but the honey this year I don't think is as good as that I had last year. I have noticed, though, that the honey, raised the last few years, is a great deal better than that obtained when Mr. Harbison kept bees here."

"That is, no doubt, owing to the wild growth being cleared out and replaced with alfalfa, fruit bloom, etc.," I answered. "About how many colonies have you, Mr. Warner?"

"I generally keep between 250 and 300 in six different apiaries. I give the ranchers \$20 a year for the privilege of keeping bees on their places. How many colonies do you think can be safely kept in one apiary, taking it season for season?"

"Well, that is hard to tell," I answered. "I have heard of keeping between five and six hundred in one apiary, but that is in the lower counties, where there is excellent bee pasturage, and where bees gather from three to five hundred pounds to the colony. In your location I think you could safely keep 100 colonies without overstocking. A great deal depends on the season. Some seasons there is abundant pasturage for 1000 colonies in one location; and again 25 will overstock it, in unfavorable seasons. I once kept 130 colonies in one apiary in El Dorado county, and they did first rate."

"Yes, I am sure I could profitably keep 100 colonies in one location without overstocking; in fact, I am going to try it next season. In the future, I intend to devote all my time to bee-keeping. I have sold all my stock and intend to rent my ranch, so that I can spend all my time with the bees."

"Have you ever tried the Carniolan bees?" I asked.

"No; these I have are hybrids and Italians, and they are splendid bees for honey gathering. I have heard about the Carniolans being very gentle. A bee-keeper told me that they did not sting at all."

"Oh, yes, they will sting as well as any other kind of bees," but with proper handling you can look through a good-sized apiary without getting stung. Carniolan bees cap their honey



very white and use little or no propolis, so that it is a pleasure to handle frames and sections; they gather as much honey as any race of bees, and are excellent defenders of their hives against robber bees. Do you have any trouble by bees robbing here in your apiaries?"

"No, bees don't rob here; at least none of mine ever have. I have heard that some bee-keepers have great trouble by robbing."

"It is only in certain localities that bees rob each other very badly, I observed. "As long as there is sufficient pasturage for them to work on, there will be no trouble. In Placerville we sometimes have considerable trouble with robber bees, but higher, in the mountains, bees rarely if ever rob. I see your hives are the Harbison style. Do you practice artificial swarming, or do you allow your bees to swarm naturally?"

"No; I divide all my colonies of bees. I divide them once, and then try to keep down all natural swarming afterward. There is considerable in knowing the right time to divide. I wait until the hive is overflowing with brood and bees and then divide. Some bee-keepers divide too early in the Spring, which I think puts them back too much and takes them too long to get started again. I want all my colonies strong—every one of them."

"But don't your bees still persist in swarming after being divided?" I asked.

"No;" after being divided once, I give them plenty of room, and they generally settle down to business, and very few of them ever swarm. Run-away swarms have a hard time in seeking a suitable habitation in a country like this, where there are so few hollow trees; they will go in old buildings, barns, chimneys, almost in any place where there is not much noise; sometimes they build out in the tules, but are generally swept away by the high water in the Winter-time."

Grizzly Flats, Calif.

## CARNIOLAN BEES.

### A Business Comparison with Italian Bees.

Written for the American Bee Journal  
BY JOHN B. BLACK.

I offer the following in the controversy on Carniolan bees:

Mr. Shuck, on page 633, says: "I have consulted three volumes of *Gleanings*, and two volumes of the *AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL* for reports concerning Carniolan bees, and I fail to find any figures to show that any one

has ever compared the results of these bees with the results obtained from Italian or black bees in the same apiary."

This is just what I have been doing this year. I had 4 colonies of Carniolans in the Spring. No. 1 gave me 50 pounds of surplus honey, and one swarm. No. 2 yielded 40 pounds of surplus and one swarm. No. 3 gave 56 pounds of surplus and two swarms. No. 4 produced 12 pounds of surplus and one swarm.

I had 19 full colonies (3 blacks, 12 of ordinary Italians, and 4 of my best Italians). They stand on my Register as follows: No. 5, 5 pounds of surplus. No. 6, 20 pounds. No. 1 gave one swarm. The bees in a five-chamber hive, containing three queens, gave 20 pounds. The rest gave nothing.

My object is to satisfy myself and those who keep but one kind of bees. If my Italians fall behind next year, I shall procure stock from another breeder, and give them one more trial. I have no advice to give, and no queens to sell.

I procured a fine Benton queen; two from Pennsylvania; and six from Kentucky; but my best queens are of my own rearing. I keep a minute record of each colony, and I write this with my Register before me. This has been a poor season for honey, particularly the early part of it; but my bees increased to 30 colonies, and I have them all snugly stored in the cellar, with plenty of food to winter them over. I use the Simplicity hive, and produce only comb-honey.

Pattonburg, Mo.

## HONEY EXHIBIT.

### Premiums at the Illinois State Fair.

Written for the American Bee Journal  
BY MRS. L. HARRISON.

When I was a child, my parents (who were very orthodox) taught me, that the devil would get me if I told lies. I have always been very much afraid of that terrible monster, who "goeth about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour," and switching his tail.

With reference to the premiums obtained upon the product of the bees at the late Illinois State Fair, I said on page 707, that "Iowa carried off the blue," which means in fair parlance, that she won the first premium, on both comb and extracted honey.

This exhibitor from Iowa (I do not remember his name), had more honey there than all other exhibitors put to-

gether, and Mrs. Harrison was one of them. When I first saw this Iowa exhibit, I said to the owner: "You will carry off the blue." He said: "Do you think so?" "Certainly." I said, "It is the largest and best."

He had made crates of one-pound sections, so many that he could not obtain space to exhibit them. His extracted-honey was put up in cute little glass-pails, which were strung on wire, in front of a large window, and presented a very fine appearance. I do not know how many gross he had of them, but I do know that he could not find room to exhibit them all. I am in hopes that he found space enough at the St. Louis Fair, where he took it from here.

I have never seen a printed list of those who obtained premiums, in the apian department at the late Fair. If I had thought it of enough importance for the world at large to know, I would have copied them from the secretary's book.

I am "posted" thus far—Mrs. L. Harrison had on exhibition one dozen and a half of Mason jars, of one and two quarts, filled with choice extracted-honey, of the crop of 1889, and the same honey drew "the blue" at the fair 1889. This year it was awarded a short piece of red ribbon with Illinois State Fair printed upon it, and three dollars in money; the money was the best part of it.

Some bee-keepers complained that they could not attend the sessions of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association, at Keokuk, Iowa, because their honey-crop was a failure; but I went, for I was awarded three dollars at the Illinois State Fair.

I am glad that Aaron Coppin also drew three dollars (see page 828) so will all bee-keepers be, and it is quite important that they should know it. It is something to be proud of, that a little bit of comb-honey drew the second premium, because there was none to come in competition with it. Aaron should have also said in the *AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL*, that he was awarded the blue, for being the best grumbler at the Illinois State Fair.

Peoria, Ill.

If you have a desire to know how to have Queens fertilized in upper stories, while the old Queen is still laying below—how you may safely introduce any Queen, at any time of the year when bees can fly—all about the different races of bees—all about shipping Queens, queen-cages, candy for queen-cages, etc.—all about forming nuclei, multiplying or uniting bees, or weak colonies, etc.; or, in fact everything about the queen-business which you may want to know, send for "Doolittle's Scientific Queen-Rearing," a book of 170 pages, which is nicely bound in cloth, and is as interesting as a story. Price, \$1.00.

## CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

## Time and place of meeting.

1891.  
 Jan. 1, 2.—Michigan State, at Detroit, Mich.  
 H. D. Cutting, Sec., Clinton, Mich.  
 Jan. 16, 17.—Indiana State, at Indianapolis, Ind.  
 Geo. C. Thompson, Sec., Southport, Ind.  
 May 7.—Susquehanna County, at Montrose, Pa.  
 H. M. Seeley, Sec., Harford, Pa.

In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITOR.

## North American Bee-Keepers' Association

PRESIDENT—P. H. Elwood....Starkville, N. Y.  
 SECRETARY—C. P. Dadant.....Hamilton, Ills.

## National Bee-Keepers' Union.

PRESIDENT—James Heddon...Dowagiac, Mich.  
 SEC'Y AND MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago.

SELECTIONS FROM  
OUR LETTER BOX

## Insuring Bees.

On page 811 E. L. Plumb asks about insuring bees. I have my bees, valued at \$5.00 per colony, insured in the Phoenix of Hartford, Conn., for two-thirds their value while in the cellar. My house and furniture, bees and fixtures, are insured at farm rates, \$1.00 per hundred, or 1 per cent. for 5 years.  
 L. EASTWOOD.

Waterville, O., Dec. 9, 1890.

## Under a Cloud.

Our favorite pursuit is under a cloud at present, owing to the extreme drouth that is prevalent throughout this section of Illinois. Plant growth is brown and seared, and springs dried up; and unless we are soon blessed with copious showers or snows, wheat, clover, etc., will be dead, making agricultural and honey production among the uncertainties for another year.

J. M. HAMBAUGH.

Spring, Ills., Dec. 5, 1890.

## No Losses in Winter.

I keep 30 colonies of bees for my own amusement, and they have done fairly well this season. They averaged about 25 pounds of honey to the colony. The honey harvest was very short here last spring. I am 72 years of age, but take great pleasure with my bees, which I winter in a cellar, and have had no losses.

D. E. NORTON.

Independence, Mo., Dec. 8, 1890.

## Candied Honey.

In the report (page 758) of the International meeting I am made to say, "We exhibited eleven tons of honey at the Colonial Exhibition," and the inference is that this constituted our entire exhibit. The same statement is repeated in the Official Report just published. I would have taken no notice of this, had I not been taken to task some time ago as to the quantity actually shown by us on that occasion as stated by me. What I did say at the International was, "That we had

eleven tons of candied honey, all in 60-pound tins, which had to be liquefied and run into small receptacles to suit the English purchaser." I was referring at the time to the unforeseen difficulties, and the unthought-of expenses attending a large honey exhibit. It is not likely we went to England to set up a display of honey before the eyes of the world, all of which was done up in 60-pound tins. It would be a rather tame spectacle.  
 R. McKNIGHT.  
 Owen Sound, Ont., Dec. 8, 1890.

## Basswood in New Jersey.

Will some one please inform me if there are any basswood, or native sugar-maple woods in Northern New Jersey?  
 Trenton, N. J. JOSEPH ECHRET.

## Northwestern Pennsylvania.

The honey crop in Northwestern Pennsylvania is a complete failure; so much so that it is doubtful if half of the colonies will winter excepting those which have been fed. White clover never blossomed more profusely than during the past season, but for some reason—the weather perhaps—there was no honey in the blossoms, and the bees just skipped the white clover. Basswood has not yielded any honey in this vicinity for three years.

GEORGE SPITLER.

Mosiertown, Pa., Dec. 8, 1890.

## The Pacific Coast.

Allow me to say to Mr. C. Theilmann, in regard to his advice, not "to listen to boomers," that Washington does not need any booming, for its climate, the health of the people, and its wealth-producing facilities all speak for themselves, and although not a bee country as yet (it being comparatively new), the prospects for bee-culture are equally as good, if not better, as those of Minnesota and many of the older States.

JOHN BOERSTLER.

Vashon, Wash., Dec. 4, 1890.

## A Favorable Outlook.

The few warm days of last month found my bees on the wing, and everything indicates successful wintering. The bees are in chaff hives, and are still on the Summer stands.

J. M. YOUNG.

Plattsmouth, Nebr., Dec. 6, 1890.

## Japan Clover.

In reference to Japan clover, page 809, I will say to D. E. Barker that I have spent three Springs in Tennessee, near Memphis, where there was Japan and white clover, and I never saw a bee on the former, while they were plentiful on the latter, and though there were large fields of both, I never was able to find any white-clover honey that was stored in May (that is the white clover month there). On June 10, 1889, I left my bees. Before going I took out all of the surplus, and divided the unfinished sections among those that I thought would need it, and on returning, the last of March, 1890, I found 1 section of clover honey, and 3 others that had some in them, which, I think, was gathered from the second crop of red clover, as the white was all dead when I left, and the bees that gathered it were hybrids. I did not find any in the hives of the blacks. This is the opinion of T. M. Edwards, a close observer, and a man of large experience in apiculture in this country.  
 THOS. C. STANLEY.

Boyleston, Ills., Dec. 8, 1890.

## Accounted For.

Joshua Bull's article on Nectar, on page 810, very definitely states the reasons for the poor honey-flow during the season in this locality (Allegany Co., N. Y.). I secured but 600 pounds of white-clover honey from my 22 colonies of black bees, spring count, and no Fall honey. My bees have increased to 40 colonies.

CHAS. TASEY.

Houghton, N. Y., Dec. 4, 1890.

## Honey Tank.

I wish some one would describe a good honey tank, or a receptacle that can be used as such? I use a barrel, but in spite of all the tightening of hoops and waxing, it will leak.  
 ALBERT VOUGHT.  
 Illaware, La., Dec. 2, 1890.

## HONEY AND BEESWAX MARKET.

CHICAGO, Nov. 26.—There is not the volume of trade usual at this season, yet prices are without material change since last quotations. Best lots of white honey in 1-pound sections, brings 17@18c; brown and dark, slow, at uncertain prices. Extracted, 7@8c per pound. Our stock is light, as to quantity, but is kept well up to demand by daily receipts. Beeswax, 27@28c.

R. A. BURNETT, 161 S. Water St.

DENVER, COLO., Nov. 28.—First grade 1-lb. sections, 16@18c. Supply exceeds the demand at present. Beeswax, 25@28c.

J. M. CLARK COM. CO., 1517 Blake St.

DETROIT, Dec. 13.—Comb honey in good demand at 15@17c per lb. Extracted, 7@9c. Beeswax, 27@28c.

M. H. HUNT, Bell Branch, Mich.

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—We quote: Fancy 1-lbs., white, 16@17c.; 2-lbs., white, 13@14c. Off grades, 1-lbs., 13@14c.; 2-lbs., 12 cents. Buckwheat, 1-lbs., 12@13c.; 2-lbs., 11 cents. Extracted, white clover and basswood, 8@9c; buckwheat, 6@7c.; California, 6@7c.; Southern, 6@7c. per gallon. Market has been inactive for weeks. Beeswax, 25@26c.

HILDBRETH BROS. & SEGELKEN,  
 28-30 West Broadway.

KANSAS CITY, MO., Dec. 13.—Comb and extracted honey is not selling as fast as we would like to see it. Market is quiet. We quote 1-lb. white comb at 16@18c; 1-lb. dark, 12@14c; 2-lb. white, 14@15c; 2-lb. dark, 12@13c; extracted, 6@7c. Beeswax, 25c.

CLEMONS, MASON & CO.,  
 Cor. 4th and Walnut Sts.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 12.—There is a good demand for all kinds of honey. Arrivals are fair of all but comb honey and Southern extracted. Small lots only of each are arriving, and are sold immediately. California honey seems to be as highly appreciated in our market as the best clover honey. We quote choice comb honey nominal at 16@18c per lb. Extracted honey at 5@8c per lb.

Beeswax is in good demand at 24@26c., for good to choice yellow. C. F. MUTH & SON,  
 Corner Freeman & Central Aves.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—New honey arriving very slowly, demand active, and all receipts are taken promptly. We quote: White clover 1-lbs., 16@18c.; 2-lbs., 14@15c.; dark 1-lbs., 11@12c.; 2-lbs., 9@10c. Extracted meets with quick sale, values ranging from 6@7 1/2 cts., depending upon quality and style of package. Beeswax, 28@30c.

S. T. FISH & CO., 189 S. Water St.

BOSTON, Nov. 28.—We quote fancy white 1-pound combs, 19@20c; fair to good, 18@19c. No 2-lb. combs in the market. Extracted, 7@9c. No beeswax on hand.

BLAKE & RIPLEY, 57 Chatham Street.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 6, 1890.—The honey market is quiet, but stock is light and prices well sustained. We are selling white at 16@20c; mixed, 14@15c; buckwheat, 13@14c. Extracted, white, 8@10c; amber, 7@8c; dark, 6@6 1/2c. Beeswax, 28@30c.

H. H. WRIGHT, 326-328 Broadway.





ALFRED H. NEWMAN,  
BUSINESS MANAGER.

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Send us *two new* subscriptions, with \$2.00, and we will present you with a "Globe" Bee-Veil for your trouble. (See the fuller notice in the advertising columns.)

The date on the wrapper-label of this paper indicates the end of the month to which you have paid. If that is past, please send us a dollar to advance that date another year.

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Those Who Have any honey to dispose of should use the Honey Almanac as a salesman. We have a few left for this year, and offer them at *one-third* price. See page 847 of this paper.

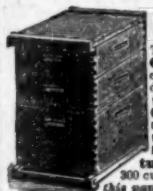
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**THAT QUEEN** I got of you IS A DAISY; well pleased.—P. B. Bluhm, Temperance Hall, Tenn., June 24, 1890. Try the **Five-Banded Golden Italians**. Orders booked now—pay when Queens arrive. Enclose stamp for prices. JACOB T. TIMPE, 51A1t Grand Ledge, Mich.

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**LOOK HERE**—E. S. Vickery, of Hartwell, Ga., writes on July 6, 1890: "The Queens I got of you have the yellowest bees I ever saw." Orders booked now for either **FIVE-BANDED GOLDEN**, or **ROOT'S HONEY ITALIAN QUEENS**. Pay on arrival. Enclose stamp.

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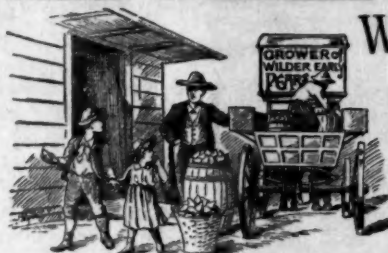
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